

POSSIBLE FUTURES IN THE AMERICAS

**VIII Biennial Conference of the International Association
of Inter-American Studies (IAS)/ Asociación Internacional
de Estudios Interamericanos**

Mexico City

February 17-19, 2025

CALL FOR PAPERS

The third decade of the XXI century began with a health emergency and several international conflicts that, in the context of the climate crisis and multiple unregulated migratory movements, have configured a geopolitical scenario that is difficult to diagnose and to prospect. Political –such as the emergence of new populisms, but also the transnationalization of counter-hegemonic movements of Afro-descendants, indigenous peoples, feminists and other marginalized sectors– and technological tendencies –such as the rise of artificial intelligence (AI)– multiply the challenges and possibilities and make them more complex in the face of the critical scenarios of late capitalism.

The Americas are in the midst of an electoral cycle that will significantly change the political panorama of the continent. Major boosts to the international far right have already been registered with the victories of Javier Milei in Argentina and Nayib Bukele in El Salvador and a rare moment of hope for the Latin American left with the election of Claudia Sheinbaum as Mexico's first woman president. For the entire region, 2024 is a specially decisive year in electoral matters, with potentially serious global repercussions; when it is over, the populations of the United States, Panama, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Uruguay will also have held presidential elections. We would like to take advantage of the opportunity of our next conference to rethink, from a hemispheric perspective, the new challenges linked to the political effervescence that the countries in the continent share on a local, national and regional level in the social, cultural, economic and environmental dimensions.

From political polarization to the economic deceleration, from the interrelated social movements to the multiple expressions of cultural creativity, from the new regulations in migration to the growing inequality between the north and south of the continent but also between the different regions and ethnic groups, the themes for this conference are a testament to the disciplinary diversity of the International Association of Inter-American Studies and a call to bring together efforts between the social sciences and humanities to critically observe the continent's conditions and reimagine possible futures for those who inhabit it.

More than fifteen years after the founding of our Association, we would also like to use this conference to critically discuss what "the inter-American" really for our academic practices, what are the possibilities and also the limitations of this approach, and how we can use our experiences as inter-Americanists and the hemispheric network we have built to find answers to the profound crises that the continent is facing today and in future junctures. With the objective of exchanging inter and transdisciplinary reflections, from critical theoretical perspectives and cutting-edge methodological approaches that allow to elucidate on possible common futures in the interamerican sphere, the Interamerican Studies Association/Asociación de Estudios Interamericanos (IAS), in collaboration with the Center for Research on North America (CISAN) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), invites you to participate in its VIII Biennial Conference "Possible futures in the Americas", to take place at the Tower II of Humanities, Ciudad Universitaria in Mexico City, from February 17 to 19, 2025.

We ask speakers to consider questions such as:

- Which are the critical global scenarios and how do they manifest themselves at the inter-American level?
- What are the critical global scenarios and how do they manifest in the interamerican sphere?
- Which theoretical-methodological lenses are pertinent to analyze the interamerican reality in the context of contemporary crisis?
- What are the epistemological resistances that emerge in this situation and how are they analyzed?
- How are these crises represented in languages, aesthetics and media?
- In what ways can humanities and social sciences provide tools to understand prevailing discourses on crises?
- What insights and tools can past imaginaries of the future provide us with to understand the present?

And topics such as:

- The reconfiguration of the political map of the Americas after the 2024 elections.
- The economic slowdown at the interamerican level.
- Displacement crisis (forced migrations, international and internal; exile and repatriation) in the Americas.
- Climate change and the Anthropocene.
- Border processes.
- Political transformations, new conservatism, populism, fascism.
- Resistances of peoples and subalternities.
- Race, racism, anti-racism. Comparative and hemispheric perspectives.
- Reemergence of indigenous knowledge. Relational perspectives and methodologies.
- Feminisms and dissidences and new imaginings of the crisis and the future.
- Activism of racial, religious, ethnic and gender minorities in the continent.
- African Diaspora in the Americas. Movements, cultures and transnational dialogues.
- Counter-information and counter-discourses as counter-hegemonic strategies.
- Media, digitalization and Artificial Intelligence (AI); critical and emancipatory uses of technique and technology.
- Ethics and aesthetics in the representation of violence in the Americas.
- Art, literature and resistance.
- Human rights and rewritings of memory.

We encourage proposals from various disciplines including sociology, political science, political economy, anthropology, history, literature, linguistics, philosophy, geography, music, and media studies, among others, that address these themes, as well as any other related theoretical and/or empirical approaches, from relevant Inter-American perspectives.

PARTICIPATION MODALITIES

Individual papers: People interested in presenting individual papers are invited to submit a summary of up to three hundred words and three keywords. Please register your individual paper using the following [form](#).

Thematic panels: Research groups are invited to propose a thematic panel (consisting of three or four registered papers, in which men and women present, with no more than two people from the same institution and whose topic covers more than one country). Please submit, in a single document, the title of the panel, a summary of up to two hundred and fifty words for each paper and three keywords to info@interamericanstudies.net

NOTES

- Papers may present research content at different stages of development, such as research projects, research progress, or presentation of results. The submission of theoretical and methodological discussion papers is also encouraged.
- Presentations can be delivered in Spanish, English or Portuguese and should last approximately 15-20 minutes. The conference will take place in person. Some of its activities will be transmitted live through digital platforms.

VENUE

Center for Research on North America (CISAN), floors 7 and 10 of Tower II of Humanities, Ciudad Universitaria, Mexico City.

FEES

Attendees: free access (with certification 20 €)

Speakers:

- 60 € - Academics (IAS members)
- 35 € - PhD students
- 10 € - BA and MA students
- 90 € - Academics (non IAS members)
- 20 € - UNAM academics

Fees effective between November 15 and December 13, 2024. There will be an additional charge of 25 € in each of the above categories for all conference participants who register after December 13, 2024. If you have any questions regarding payment, please contact us at treasurer@interamericanstudies.net

Dates to Remember

Call for papers launch	June 28, 2024
Registration for individual presentations and thematic panels	From June 28 to September 10, 2024
Notification of approved presentations	November 15, 2024
Preliminary program	December 2, 2024
Fee payment deadline	December 13, 2024
Final program (only the name of those who paid during the regular period will be published in the program)	January 20, 2025
VIII Biennial Conference of the International Association of Inter-American Studies (IAS)/ Asociación Internacional de Estudios Interamericanos	February 17 to 19, 2025

ORGANIZING INSTITUTION

Interamerican Studies Association/Asociación de Estudios Interamericanos (IAS), in collaboration with the Center for Research on North America (CISAN) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dra. Graciela Martínez-Zalce • Dra. Luz Angélica Kirschner • Dr. Matti Steinitz • Dra. Astrid Haas

CONTACT info@interamericanstudies.net

